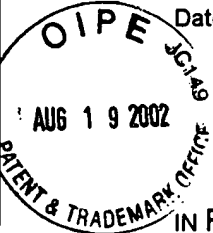


hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231, on:

Date: 8/12/02

By: Melody A. Shmberg

#31/IDS  
9/10/02  
vs



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

THOMAS L. RITZDORF ET AL.

APPLICATION No.: 09/018,783

FILED: FEBRUARY 4, 1998

FOR: METHOD FOR FILLING RECESSED  
MICRO-STRUCTURES WITH  
METALLIZATION IN THE  
PRODUCTION OF A  
MICROELECTRONIC DEVICE

EXAMINER: DEVAN M. COLLINS  
ART UNIT: 2823  
CONFIRMATION No.: 1242

PATENT  
RECEIVED  
AUG 30 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

**Information Disclosure Statement After First Office Action but  
Before Final Action or Notice of Allowance – 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

1. Timing of Submission

The information transmitted herewith is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this application or after the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits, whichever occurred last, but *before* the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, whichever occurs first. The references listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A may be material to the examination of this application; the Examiner is requested to make them of record in the application.

2. Cited Information

☒ Copies of the following references are enclosed:

- ☒ All cited references
- ☐ References marked by asterisks
- ☐ The following:

08/21/2002 RHEBRAHT 00000088 09018783

01 FC:126

180.00 OP

☐ Copies of the following references can be found in parent application Ser. No.

- ☐ All cited references
- ☐ References marked by asterisks
- ☐ The following:

☐ The following references are not in English. For each such reference, the undersigned has enclosed: (i) a translation of the reference; (ii) a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office or International Searching Authority citing the reference; (iii) a copy of a reference which appears to be an English-language counterpart; or (iv) an English-language abstract for the reference prepared by a third party. Applicant has not verified that the translation, English-language counterpart or third-party abstract is an accurate representation of the teachings of the non-English reference, though, and reserves the right to demonstrate otherwise.

- ☐ All cited references
- ☐ References marked by ampersands
- ☐ The following:

3. Effect of Information Disclosure Statement (37 CFR 1.97(h))

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the cited information is, or is considered to be, material to patentability. In addition, applicant does not admit that any enclosed item of information constitutes prior art to the subject invention and specifically reserves the right to demonstrate that any such reference is not prior art.

4. Fee Payment (37 CFR 1.97(c)) or Certification (37 CFR 1.97(e))

☒ Applicant elects to pay the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p) \$180.00.

- ☒ Check enclosed for \$180.00
- ☐ Please charge the above fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 50-0665 this paper is provided in triplicate.

☐ Applicant submits that no fee is due in light of the following certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e) (check only one):

- ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned hereby states that each item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to this filing of this statement; or
- ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2), the undersigned hereby states that no item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification

after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c), more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.


- ☒ Please charge any underpayment for timely filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

5. Patent Term Adjustment (37 CFR 1.704(d))

- ☐ The undersigned states that each item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d).

Date: 8/12/2002

Respectfully submitted,  
Perkins Coie LLP

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul T. Parker  
Registration No. 38,264

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 25096  
Phone: (206) 583-8888



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

**COMPLETE IF KNOWN**

Application Number	09/018,783
Confirmation Number	1242
Filing Date	February 4, 1998
First Named Inventor	Thomas L. Ritzdorf
Group Art Unit	2823
Examiner Name	Deven M. Collins
Attorney Docket No.	291958162US

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent or Application		Name of Patentee or Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Figures Appear
		NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)			
		6,254,758		Koyama	07/03/01	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Foreign Patent or Application			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Office	NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)				

**OTHER PRIOR ART-NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T
		AHN, E. C. <i>et al.</i> "Adhesion Reliability of Cu-Cr Alloy Films to Polyimide" <i>Materials Research Society Symposium Proceedings</i> , 1996, Vol. 427, pp. 141-145, Materials Research Society.	
		ALERS, G. B. <i>et al.</i> "Trade-off between reliability and post-CMP defects during recrystallization anneal for copper damascene interconnects" <i>IEEE International Reliability Physics Symposium</i> , 2001, pp. 350-354.	
		GLADKIKH, A. <i>et al.</i> "Activation Energy of Electromigration in Copper Thin Film Conductor Lines" <i>Materials Research Society Symposium Proceedings</i> , 1996, Vol. 427, pp. 121-126, Materials Research Society.	
		KONONENKO, O. V. <i>et al.</i> "Electromigration in Submicron Wide Copper Lines" <i>Materials Research Society Symposium Proceedings</i> , 1996, Vol. 427, pp. 127-132, Materials Research Society.	
		MEI, Y. <i>et al.</i> "Thermal Stability and Interaction Between SIOF and Cu Film" <i>Materials Research Society Symposium Proceedings</i> , 1996, Vol. 427, pp. 433-439, Materials Research Society.	
		RUSSELL, S. W. <i>et al.</i> "The Effect of Copper on the Titanium-Silicon Dioxide Reaction and the Implications for Self-Encapsulating, Self-Adhering Metallization Lines", <i>Materials Research Society Symposium Proceedings</i> , 1992, Vol. 260, pp. 763-768, Materials Research Society, Pittsburgh, PA.	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance <u>and</u> not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application(s).	